

## Shared Responsibility in Caring for the Person with Pain

### Conducting a Local Community Connect Program

Local organizations often have a tremendous capability to organize events and bring together clinicians to meet one another, network and foster greater communication and collaboration. Consider enlisting the partnership of one or more of the following local associations to help organize and conduct an event in your area.

- State or County Medical Association
- State or County Pharmacy Association
- State or Regional Pain Societies
- Clinics or Hospitals

#### Types of Events

Events can be organized as stand-alone meetings supported by one or more local pain, medical or pharmacy associations or can be added onto an existing local association or chapter meeting. Though live meetings are often best to enable healthcare providers to meet each other, web conferences can also be organized as a forum to discuss the local issues and potential solutions for improved communication. Allow ample time for discussion and Q&A so that attendees have time to thoroughly discuss the local issues and advance the process with local best practices and suggestions that will enable collaboration.

#### Audience

An integrated treatment team provides an environment that offers coordinated care in pain management. Ideally, both prescribers (MDs, DOs, NPs, PAs) and pharmacists should be invited to attend an event to network, learn about the various perspectives and participate in a collaborative discussion. Consider contacting associations and organizations and inquiring about their possible interest in partnering for the event and if they would be willing to send an invitation or announcement to their membership.

#### Panel

Local panelists, such as prescribers, pharmacists, regulatory policy and advocacy leaders can conduct their own Local Thought Leader Panel Discussion followed by Q&A, or the 20-minute Thought Leader Panel Discussion Video can be used at the beginning of an event to fuel thoughts followed by a moderated discussion with the audience.



*Events that are planned with both prescribers and pharmacists in attendance allow both parties to introduce themselves to pharmacist/prescribers they may work with regularly. A networking reception after the meeting may be worthwhile to encourage dialogue among the participants in a more informal setting.*



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### Event Checklist

#### Below are a Few Tips to Keep in Mind While Planning for a Community Connect Event

- ✓ Plan to enlist sponsoring associations and organizations early in the planning process and define roles and responsibilities up front
- ✓ Choose panel members that are well respected in the community (consider both prescriber and pharmacist representation)
- ✓ Choose a moderator who is engaging and can move the conversation forward toward potential solutions
- ✓ Invite participants at least 4 to 6 weeks in advance of the event
- ✓ Allow ample time for Q&A and dialogue so real best practices can be discussed
- ✓ Consider building in a networking reception if feasible to encourage prescriber/pharmacist introductions and networking
- ✓ Consider providing handouts or links to local resources, such as state specific information on the PDMP

### Other National Resources

- Opioid Risk Tool (ORT) – Prescribe Responsibly  
<http://www.prescriberesponsibly.com/sites/default/files/pdf/risk/Opioid%20Risk%20Tool.pdf>
- Controlled Substances Act – DEA  
<http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/21cfr/21usc/812.htm>
- State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) Q&A – U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, Office of Diversion Control  
[http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/faq/rx\\_monitor.htm](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/faq/rx_monitor.htm)
- American Academy of Pain Management  
<http://www.aapainmanage.org/>
- PDMP Training and Technical Assistance Center  
<http://www.pdmpassist.org/>
- Health IT  
<http://www.healthit.gov/>